

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1 and 16-18, 20, and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Toyota et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,881,233) in view of Eguchi (U.S. Patent No. 6,574,670) and Firth (U.S. Patent No. 5,987,517), and in further view of Zhang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,016,478). It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Applicant's claim 1 is directed to a communications apparatus that can transmit an e-mail or a facsimile. If facsimile is designated, then the facsimile is transmitted to a recipient. If e-mail is designated, the e-mail is transmitted so that a name or an e-mail address corresponding to an entered password is available to a recipient of the e-mail. Also, the name or e-mail address is available without opening an attached file containing inputted image data.

Applicant's invention, as recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

...a controller that... when the user designates email transmission on the panel, extracts, from the memory, a name corresponding to the password entered on the panel...

Thus, multiple users can use Applicant's communication apparatus. Furthermore, sender information is put in the "From" field of the header of the email. A conventional communication apparatus shared by some users automatically puts a default name or a default email address in the "From" field no matter who the user is. The receiver sees the default name or the default email address without opening the attached file, but does not know who the email is from. Thus, in accordance with Applicant's claim 1, a user can enter their password so that, in the "From" field, the user's name or email address corresponding to the entered password appears. This feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

In addition, claim 1 recites the ability of multiple users to enter respective passwords. By contrast, the Toyoda patent does not allow multiple users to enter their email addresses. As this claimed feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Claims 16-21 have been cancelled.

Claims 22-28 are newly added.

Claim 24, while not identical to claim 1, is also patentable over the art of record for reasons similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1.

Claims 22 and 23 are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 1. Claims 25 and 26 are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 24.

Claims 27 and 28 recite that Applicant's claimed panel can designate email transmission, designate facsimile transmission, and enter the password which is used to extract the user name from Applicant's claimed memory. Claims 27 and 28 also recite that the facsimile transmission which is designated from the front panel results in the default name being added to the image data. None of the references of record disclose a panel which can be used for all three functions recited in claims 27 and 28. Accordingly, 27 and 28 are patentable over the art of record.

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In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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